

NEWS

From the Office of

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Expansion of Barstow Sheriff's Station Expected to Move Forward

SAN BERNARDINO – The future expansion of the Sheriff's station in Barstow is expected to take a major step Tuesday when the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors will consider approving a Request for Proposals to seek a firm to do the design work.

"The Barstow station is responsible for covering 10,000 square miles of the County, and they have been in the same facility for 40 years, which is now overcrowded," said Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who has made the expansion a priority. "This expansion will be a much-needed improvement for the men and women who patrol the huge area, and protect our desert residents and visitors."

About 4,800 square feet of the existing building at 225 E. Mountain View will be remodeled and then another 4,000 square feet will be added, along with increasing the parking lot by 40 spaces.

Supervisors have budgeted \$600,000 for the design work and initial expansion of the parking lot. The entire project is expected to cost a total of about \$3.5 million.

The Barstow station is in a unique situation, not only for covering a geographic area that stretches from Trona and Red Mountain to Baker and the Nevada state line, but also for the numerous agencies that deputies and investigators work hand-in-hand with, including the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps, the National Park Service, the California Highway Patrol, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the Barstow Police Department.

The growth of the area, along with the increase in office staff, deputies, investigators and commanders has left the building extremely crowded.

Expansion of the parking is expected to begin in the fall and be complete by the end of the year or early 2009. Construction work for the expansion and remodeling is scheduled to begin in June 2009 and take about a year to complete.